

poise, and good sportsmanship on and off the playing field. She is the quintessential model of grace under pressure. Yet, despite the hard work and competition, Michelle views everything as a new and exciting experience. Although Michelle is only a freshman in high school, I am impressed by such optimism and devotion. She is truly remarkable. I know that Michelle has much to offer. I look forward to offering more congratulations to this promising athlete in the future.

My fellow colleagues, Michelle Sikes is an outstanding and inspirational individual. Please join me in honoring her notable accomplishments and achievements in track and field.

IN HONOR OF MARC SYLVESTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Marc Sylvester, a member of the boys track and field team at St. Ignatius High School in Ohio. Marc has been selected by the Cleveland Plain Dealer as a part of their All-Star Boys Track team as the middle distance runner for the Spring 2000 season.

Marc has demonstrated exceptional athletic ability and tremendous commitment to his sporting activities. This past Spring season, Marc Sylvester has become an integral part of St. Ignatius High School's track and field team. He ran the 800 meters, leaving opponents far back, and ran anchor for the 4x800 and 4x400 relays. In the Division I Relays at Amherst Steele, he set the record for the fastest 800 meter race ever run by an Ohio high school athlete. His time was 1 minute, 49.50 seconds. Such accomplishments are outstanding, and I commend him for his devotion and commitment. Unfortunately, two days after regionals, Marc suffered a partially collapsed lung and was held out of the state meet. But Marc's sterling track career has not ended with this setback. While it was disappointing not running at the state meet, Marc is feeling much better and is now working towards winning the National Outdoor Championships in Raleigh, North Carolina. Marc's strong faith and belief in his abilities has enabled him to become one of the finest athletes in northern Ohio, and perhaps the nation.

Recognition by the Cleveland Plain Dealer of Marc's accomplishments is an amazing honor because it acknowledges the hours of sacrifice and patience needed to cultivate stamina and perseverance, as well as excellence in teamwork and cooperation. More importantly, I am inspired by his motivation, poise, and good sportsmanship on and off the playing field. Marc is the quintessential model of grace under pressure. I am impressed by such optimism and devotion. He is truly remarkable. I know that Marc has much to offer. I look forward to offering more congratulations to this promising athlete in the future.

My fellow colleagues, Marc Sylvester is an outstanding and inspirational individual. Please join me in honoring his notable accomplishments and achievements in track and field.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, on July 10, 2000 I was unavoidably detained and was not present for six rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes No. 373, No. 374, No. 375, No. 376, No. 377, and No. 378.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 10, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4461) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes:

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment which will strike damaging language and replace it with more sensible policy.

The language this amendment strikes would have crippled the nation's ability to discuss and advance reasonable measures that would protect the environment in the most economically efficient way.

The language would have blocked all government work on carbon emissions trading—all work, including discussion and analysis—even though corporations increasingly are embracing such trading and have entered into voluntary programs to engage in it. Carbon trading is the most economically efficient way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; if we don't do the work to develop it now, we will be left with no tools other than command and control to limit carbon, if we choose to impose limits in the future.

Similarly, the Clean Development Mechanism that the bill language would have blocked is an economically beneficial way to attack greenhouse gas emissions in the developing world. The Mechanism will encourage the sale of American-made clean technologies in the developing world. Why on Earth would we want to discourage something that helps other nations implement their own climate change policies while creating business for our own companies and workers?

I am pleased that so many people in industry and the Congress, from all points of the political spectrum, recognized the folly of this language.

The language the amendment would substitute is far from ideal, but it is moderate language that has been signed into law in past years.

But as someone who encouraged this strike and replace amendment, let me make clear my interpretation of what the amendment language says. The amendment prohibits the proposing or issuance of rules related to Kyoto. It does not prohibit the development of

policies; it does not prohibit the discussions of policies in the U.S. or abroad; and it does not prohibit activities designed to carry out the Rio agreement on carbon dioxide, which was signed by President Bush and ratified by the Senate.

In other words, the United States, under this language, can send representatives to international conference to discuss carbon trading or the Clean Development Mechanisms, can help other nations develop such policies, can undertake activities to figure out how such a policy would be implemented here. All that is being prohibited is the actual implementation of such policies; anything up to the point of proposal and issuance may continue.

This amendment would not have the broad support it is receiving if Members believed in the cramped interpretation put forward by some of its proponents. The amendment means what it says on its face; it should not be interpreted in fanciful ways by those who were unsuccessful in getting more restrictive language approved.

I hope future appropriation bills with this language will include the report language from the fiscal 1999 VA-HUD conference report, which provides the clearest, more accurate interpretation—which is that this amendment blocks activities that are solely related to implementing the Kyoto Protocol.

And so, with that in mind, I urge support for the amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I regret that I missed Rollcall votes 373, 374, 375 and 376 to the fiscal year 2001 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and related agencies appropriations bill (H.R. 4461). My flight from Charlotte was delayed due to threatening weather.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 373, on the Coburn amendment to H.R. 4461, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote 374, on the Royce amendment to H.R. 4461, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote 375, on the Crowley amendment to H.R. 4461, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote 376, on the Royce amendment to H.R. 4461, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote 377, on the Coburn amendment to H.R. 4461, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote 378, on the Sanford amendment to H.R. 4461, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained last